

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 HA-05 MCT-01 CU-06 /084 W  
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R 021923Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8542

UNCLAS LIMA 0982

FOR ARA/AND/P

EO 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN, PE  
SUBJ: PRESS RELEASE FROM THE INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

1. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION MET AT THE SHERATON HOTEL IN LIMA JANUARY 22-24 WITH NO ADVANCE PUBLICITY AND ISSUED THE FOLLOWING COMMUNIQUE JANUARY 24 (TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH):

2. QUOTE "THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE INTERAMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION MEETING IN LIMA JANUARY 23, 1978 DECLARE THAT:

CONSIDERING THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION IS TO MONITOR FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN THE HEMISPHERE;

CONSIDERING: THAT THE RECENT ACTION OF THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT TO ABOLISH PRIOR "REVIEW" OF MAGAZINES AND WEEKLY PUBLICATIONS INDICATES A MOVE IN THE DIRECTION OF FREEDOM OF THE PRESS;

CONSIDERING: THAT THE ENFORCEMENT DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS OR DECREE LAES 20680 AND 20681 MADE COMPLETE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE THE UNJUST AND ANOMALOUS SITUATION IN THE DAILY PRESS CONTINUES SINCE IT REMAINS UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND ITS CURRENT STATUS AFFECTS AND ESSENTIALLY VIOLATES THE  
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BASIC RIGHTS GRANTED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE PERUVIAN CONSTITUTION.

3. RESOLVE: TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT MEASURES WILL CONTINUE TO BE TAKEN TO REESTABLISH FULL FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND, SPECIFICALLY, THAT DAILY NEWSPAPERS WILL BE RETURNED TO THEIR RIGHTFUL OWNERS AND THE INFRINGED RIGHTS OF THE JOURNALISTS

INVOLVED BE RESTORED AS THE ONLY MEAND OF REESTABLISHING TRUE  
PRESS FREEDOM. LIMA, JANUARY 24, 1978." UNQUOTE

4. PART OF THE DELEGATION MET WITH GENERAL CESAR A. VINATEA,  
CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (SINADI), PRESUMABLY  
TO DISCUSS THE LOCAL PRESS SITUATION.

5. ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE:

AGUIRRE, HORACIO, PUBLISHER DIARIO LOS AMERICAS.

BEEBE, GEORGE, ASSOC, PUBLISHER, MIAMI HERALD, CHAIRMAN OF  
WORLD PRESS FREEDOM COMMITTEE.

BELTRAN, PEDRO, FORMER OWNER OF LA PRENSA.

CAVEL, JAMES, GENERAL MANAGER, IAPA.

CLARKE, OLIVER, DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER, DAILY GLEANER,  
KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

DIK, RAY, PUBLISHER, WOOSTER (OHIO) DAILY RECORD.

GARCIA-LAVIN, ANDRES, PUBLISHER, NOVEDADES, MERIDA YUCATAN, MEXICO.

HILLS, ARGENTINA, PRESIDENT OF IAPA, PUBLISHER OF EL MUNDO,  
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO.

HILLS, LEE, CHAIRMAN OF KNIGHT RIDDER.

MARTINEZ MARQUEZ, GUILLERMO, PUBLISHER IN EXILE, EL PAIS,  
HAVANA.

MEISSNER, DAVID, EDITORIAL WRITER, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL.

ORNES, GERMAN, PUBLISHER OF EL CARIBE, SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN  
REPUBLIC.

REITEMEYER, JOHN, RETIRED PUBLISHER OF HARTFORD COURANT.

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SCRIPPS, CHARLES, CHAIRMAN OF SCRIPPS-HOWARD.

JIMENEZ, MANUEL, PRESIDENT OF LA NACION, SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA.

PENZINI, PEDRO, PRESIDENT OF EL NACIONAL, CARACAS, VENEZUELA.

8. COMMENT. THE GOP-CONTROLLED DAILY PRESS IGNORED THE IPS  
MEETING AND ITS FINDINGS. THE INDEPENDENT MEDIA DID REPORT THE  
EVENT, BUT IT WAS NOT WELL PUBLICIZED AMONG THE PERUVIAN  
POPULATION AS A WHOLE. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER HIS MEETING  
WITH UNESCO DIRECTOR GENERAL, FORNMIN DE LA PUENTE ALLUDED TO  
THE IPS MEETING, EXPRESSING SATISFACTION THAT NEWSPAPER OWNERS  
HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE "CLIMATE OF LIBERTY" THAT EXISTS  
IN PERU, AND THE CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT PUBLISHED IN THE  
INDEPENDENT MAGAZINES.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS RELEASES, MEETINGS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**TAGS:** SOPN, PE, INTERAMERICAN PRESS ASSOC  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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